

Honolulu Star-Bulletin

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EDITOR

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DECIDEDLY HOPEFUL.

That John H. Wise should not only assent to but strongly advocate radical charter revision and the adoption of the "short ballot" form of government by Honolulu will be a general surprise. He and many others who have been elected to the convention are popularly supposed to be "standpat" to the point of reactionism. It has been taken for granted by the avowed workers for charter reform that the voting majority in the convention would be against the elimination of a number of elective offices and the substitution of the short-ballot plan.

If delegates of the admitted political astuteness among Honolulu voters of Wise and W. C. Achi endorse and work for the short-ballot plan, the plan is possible of materialization. There are perhaps a dozen out of the sixty-odd delegates who are avowed workers for the short-ballot plan, together with the recall, the initiative and referendum, and the four-year term for elected officials. They have been expected to make a determined but largely hopeless fight for their views. If men with the influence among the Hawaiian delegates of Achi and Wise join forces with the nucleus already certain, they should be able to mould the convention. They should be able to make it a useful, constructive body instead of an obstacle to progress.

The situation is decidedly more hopeful than most advocates of the short-ballot city government have been willing to believe. The political aspect undoubtedly is reckoned with by the keenest of politicians. Democrats are already claiming that in six months of administration the mayor and the board of supervisors have reversed the popular sentiment so strongly in their favor last November. In the fifth district there is much dissatisfaction with the city administration. The fourth district is waiting to be convinced that the administration is going to live up to its pledges of efficiency and economy.

Republican leaders among the Hawaiians know that the record of this administration is not going to satisfy all the voters by a long way. And to show a record of constructive achievement, the Republican party needs some outstanding feature. It is planned to make that feature the promulgation and adoption of a brand-new charter.

Political expediency and progressive thought now are hand in hand and there is no reason why they should not remain so. It's good politics for the Republicans and it's good business for the people.

It will be just as good politics for the Democrats to come forward and demand a charter change. In fact, the Democrats have a splendid chance to gain votes, particularly in the fourth district, if they will go to the front for a modern city charter and make this an issue from now on until the next election.

When it is realized that the voting majority is awakening to the belief that new methods as well as new men are needed to give Honolulu the most economical and efficient government, both parties will be striving to get into the lead for charter reform.

TEACHING SAFETY ON THE STREETS.

The most direct, the quickest, the surest way to promote safety on the streets for the negligent populations of Honolulu is through the schools.

Ten minutes each day in every class-room devoted to a few simple precepts, reinforced by illustrations—and there are all too many illustrations—of the tragedies resulting from carelessness, should teach to nine-tenths of the children of Honolulu lessons that will never be forgotten.

Every autoist, every driver of a street-car, has had moments of horrible suspense when some child heedlessly rushed in front of a moving auto or car and it was a question if the speed of the vehicle could be checked in time to avert a tragedy.

A drive through the crowded sections of Honolulu—say from Fort street west to the Kamehameha schools—brings a hundred instances of heedlessness that might result in serious injury or death.

The Chamber of Commerce, with its powers of publicity and its influence in enlisting many factors to its cause, can do much good in promoting the teaching of "safety first." It is not alone the children that need it, but their mothers, fathers, elder sisters and brothers. Publicity through the Oriental papers, through the papers printed in English which reach

those of Oriental blood who read English; publicity through every available channel, will go far toward teaching the lesson that the price of carelessness is often death or life-injury.

And there still remains some room for learning on the part of many chauffeurs. Any casual observer can see drivers daily "taking chances" in dashing past street-cars or through groups of children.

"Safety first" lessons can be taught not alone in the schools but in the police station and magistrate's court.

Admiral Wei Han's prediction that the Chinese boycott of Japanese goods will not last long is not in agreement with the comment of a noted American businessman and educator who passed through Honolulu on the Manchuria yesterday. He says that the Chinese are showing a deep and silent anger against Japan which makes the boycott a very serious matter and that this anger will not soon be dispelled. All of which bears out the statement in these columns at the time Japan voiced her demands—that Tokio might win on the surface but down below, in the powerful and profitable current of commerce, the Japanese would lose.

A report from Atlanta tells of a plot to lynch Leo M. Frank, whose death sentence was commuted to life imprisonment by Governor Slaton just before the latter left office. Lynching would be a fitting climax to the proxym of mob law that has apparently convulsed Georgia justice. Slaton is said to be the most unpopular man in Georgia now, but a mainland paper aptly observes that when the murderer of little Mary Phagan is discovered, Georgia may well thank its courageous executive for having saved it a perpetual shame.

The public utilities commission was created by the legislature to be something more than a mere recording body. Its work in the past has been largely perfunctory. Now the commission seems to be getting "cleared for action" and to be manifesting a desire to go beneath the surface in its investigations of accidents. In this line of activity it should and we have no doubt will meet with entire cooperation by the public service corporations. The corporations have always appeared willing to meet the commission half-way.

Germany is not the only country which must stagger financially if the war goes on for another year. France, Britain and Russia are rolling up debts for future generations to carry. Even the victors in this war will be virtually impoverished so far as money reserves are concerned though credit will still be available.

Uncle Sam accommodatingly loans his services to the powder manufacturers hoping that hereafter if he gets into war he can call on them to supply him with munitions.

Italy is going to teach the manufacture of war munitions in her vocational training-schools. This is certainly a step toward "preparedness."

Chinese gamblers are being insured against arrest, says the captain of detectives. Evidently they don't believe that honesty is the best policy.

We judge by the silent preparations that Wilson and Lansing are going to say something pretty soon with a kick to it.

Strange that a great deal of the world's intemperance should be found in the temperate zone.—Leavenworth New Era.

A German bulletin, describing the enemy's artillery captured, includes "field guns, machine guns and mules."

It occurs to us that instead of four new traffic officers the police department needs four che-fa chasers.

Up to the time of going to press Bryan's peace plan hasn't stopped any battles.

The battlefield, says a correspondent, abounds in humor. Mostly unconscious humor.

Denmark has extended suffrage to women and still claims to be non-combatant.

Lansing appears to be just the man for first mate on the Ship of State.

Patronage isn't always the best politics.

LETTERS

(The Star-Bulletin invites free and frank discussion in this column on all legitimate subjects of current interest. Communications are constantly received to which no signature is attached. This paper will treat as confidential signatures to letters if the writers so desire, but cannot give space for anonymous communications.)

AMERICA AND THE LUSITANIA.

Honolulu, July 13.

Editor Honolulu Star-Bulletin, Sir: There were several errors of judgment that were undoubtedly contributory factors in the Lusitania catastrophe. Among these may be mentioned, the running of this great vessel at reduced speed. Her owners wanted to save coal and reduce expense. Testimony to this effect was given at the coroner's inquest.

The failure of the British admiralty to protect the Lusitania from submarine attack was a blunder. This ship was torpedoed within sight of land and within a very short distance of her home port. England has numerically and in tonnage the largest fleet of war vessels of any nation, yet no effort was put forth by her to safeguard the homecoming of this great liner.

We Americans contributed to the disaster when we permitted the shipment of munitions and other contraband on a passenger vessel.

Undoubtedly we have the "legal" right to sell war supplies to any belligerent in any war. Whether we also have the right to imperil the lives of passengers by forwarding contraband on the same ship is an open question. It depends on whether, when we invoke the supreme law of humanity and make our stand on that, we are willing to recognize its universal scope. We cannot invoke the law and then limit its direction.

We cannot place the onus of blame on the owners of the Lusitania and say it was all their fault—that they should not have accepted that class of freight. We who shipped, and they who contracted to carry, war munitions on a passenger ship are not absolved from moral obligation because both were within their "legal" rights.

Suppose the position had been reversed. Imagine the United States had been at war with Canada and that we believed if we could prevent Germany from delivering a cargo of ammunition to our enemy we would win the fight. If we knew a great German passenger liner heavily laden with war supplies had sailed for Canadian ports—if we had convinced ourselves that we could intercept that particular cargo it would end the war in our favor—were we Americans so sure of our high standards of humanitarianism that we would applaud the commander of one of our submarines if he permitted the vessel to pass because there were women and children aboard? I hope we would, but confess I am a little doubtful whether we could measure up to that high moral standard.

I say this, not for one moment in justification of Germany's act, but only to ask the question. We, as a nation, are following President Wilson up into the pure and rarefied atmosphere of a higher Christian morality. We have invoked the Supreme Arbiter to uphold the cause of humanity as something higher, better, more noble and more just than the selfishness bred by war, the selfishness of self-preservation. In fear and trembling I ask it, could we as a nation fly far, or long, on that higher plane? Would no man among us applaud when that Germanic "Lusitania" went down? Would we hang our submarine commander for murder, or imprisonment for the crew?

To me the wonder of this time and age is that so many men in all lands should now be openly questioning the two earth-old maxims "Might makes right," and "All's fair in war."

We of the United States are trying to read a new moral principal into the conduct of human affairs. Are we as a nation so pure, so untainted with sordid commercialism that having climbed to these mountain heights we can continue to stand there, unabashed and unafraid?

Will Uncle Sam question his own soul to discover whether he is seeking the right because it is a concept of human morality, or will he follow the lead of other nations and dwell on the "legality" of his position—to back up that "legality" by force and arms?

AMERICAN.

MORNING ON 'CHANGE.

Olas, McBryde and Waialua monopolized the bulk of stock sales during the last 24 hours, according to reports of dealings between boards and at the session today. Olas is firm at \$7, McBryde at \$8 and Waialua at \$23.50. Honolulu Brewing & Malting has recovered from its temporary slump and holds well at \$12. Hilo, common, has apparently found a stationary resting place at \$6.

Charles F. Southmayo who died in Stockbridge, Mass., on July 1, 1911, left an estate of \$3,090,320.9

MONTANA JUDGE CALLS HARRISON DRUG ACT VOID

Word comes from Helena, Mont., that the Harrison Drugs Act which was passed on March 1 of this year, has been declared unconstitutional in Montana by United States Judge George M. Bourquin. It is said that seven defendants who had been indicted for having drugs in their possession, were released.

News of Judge Bourquin's decision is of interest here because of the fact that drastic measures are being planned by local authorities to abolish the opium habit. Officers at the internal revenue office today were not of the opinion that the decision would have any vital effect on the Harrison act.

Reasons for the decision were that the act interfered with the Montana metropolitan police law, but in Collector Haley's opinion a state law has little effect in annulling a federal law. Chief Deputy Ralph Johnston believes that the decision will be carried to a higher authority and the Harrison act cleared of any claim of unconstitutionality.

"Many people," he says, "who have had charge of the work in running down the drug habit, declare that the Harrison act, since it went into effect, has done more to accomplish results in their line than did any other law in history."

In regard to local physicians who are known to be supplying addicts with prescriptions whereby they may obtain narcotics in large lots, Mr. Haley is not allowed to give out the names of such persons to the general public but he may under the law give out the list to the health authorities.

The local medical society is determined to help in the stamping out of the practice and will probably in the near future, together with the board of health, call upon Collector Haley for the names of such physicians.

Personal Mention

J. P. COOKE, president and manager of Alexander & Baldwin, left for Kauai yesterday on a plantation inspection tour.

D. F. THURM of Thurms, Ltd., left for the mainland in the Wilhelmina this morning on a combined business and pleasure trip.

H. L. HOLSTEIN, speaker of the last house of representatives, is booked to return to his home in Kohala, Hawaii, in the Mauna Kea today.

HENRY W. KINNEY, superintendent of public instruction, will leave for Kauai next Thursday on business in connection with the department. He expects to return to Honolulu the following Sunday.

MRS. V. L. STEVENSON, wife of the editor of the Hawaii Herald, left for Sydney, Australia, in the Makura this morning, having received news that her mother is seriously ill. She was accompanied by her daughter.

WILLIAM LUKE, former manager of the Chinese Liberty News, left this morning on the Manchuria for San Francisco. He goes to attend the convention of the Chinese National League, which is to be held in the exposition city, beginning July 24.

JOHN M. MARTIN: The report that German bankers have warned the kaiser that the war must soon be brought to a close or the country suffer bankruptcy seems to me one of the most hopeful signs for peace that we have heard for a long while.

DR. T. KATSUMIMA, Japanese interpreter at the United States immigration station, has agreed to lead the party of Japanese who are to go on an excursion from Hawaii to Japan next October. The party will attend the coronation of the emperor in November, at Kioto.

JOHN WAIMAU, a graduate of the Kamehameha Manual School, was chosen head of the Kamehameha Instrumental Club at the second meeting of that organization last evening. The club will meet every Thursday evening at 8 o'clock in the clubhouse, Fort street. It is the intention of Leader Waimau to increase the club membership to 32 pieces.

An order for 700 steel box cars and 50 cabooses was awarded to the Central Locomotive & Car Co. of Chicago by the Chesapeake & Ohio railroad.

FOR SALE.

LAIMI ROAD—2 lots in Nuanu Tract, area 10,000 sq. ft., 2-room cottage. \$1100.
ROYAL GROVE, Waikiki—One lot.
KAPAHULU—Lots 50x100, on easy terms.

For further particulars and list of other property call on
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Stangenwald Bldg., Merchant St.

'LOOKS BAD FOR SOMEONE,' SAYS J. D. LEVENSON

"It looks bad for someone," thus spoke J. D. Levenson, when questioned with regard to the developments of the investigation which has been progressing for the last several days, centering about the Honolulu Ad Club. Just who the "someone" is, he flatly refused to say—but added that it could not be kept from the public much longer, as things had taken such a turn that publicity is inevitable.

"I am very sorry about this little affair, from the way things look at the present time," continued Levenson. "There seems but little doubt that the accusations which were made will create considerable discomfort for the party or parties under fire."

"No, I can't say just when the circumstances will come to a complete head—but probably within the week."

In answer to the query as to whether the Ad Club would prosecute the guilty party, or parties, concerned in this mysterious investigation, he expressed it as his private opinion that the club would probably play an important part in the proceedings.

Nothing has yet been brought to the notice of either territorial or federal authorities. This would tend to strengthen Levenson's contention that everything is being conducted with as much secrecy as possible, out of justice to the principals involved, in case the investigations come to naught.

The navy may have a hand in the matter, as it is learned that R. E. Lambert, ex-paymaster, is on the committee of investigation.

Five thousand persons heard Billy Sunday deliver his farewell sermon in Philadelphia before his departure to his Oregon farm for a rest. Two hundred hit the trail.



Large Meat Trays

In massive silver plate. Quite plain in design. Gravy channels deep-cut. When not in actual use one will lend dignity and beauty to the buffet.

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LITTLE INTERVIEWS

PAUL SUPER: The contractors began to pour concrete on the swimming pool today. We will probably be ready to open it early in September.

KINNEY AND RAYMOND SEE WATERTOWN SCHOOL SITE

Henry W. Kinney, superintendent of public instruction, and George S. Raymond, public school inspector, went to Watertown yesterday afternoon to look over a site to which the present school building is to be moved. The land on which the school is now situated is leased property, and it is the idea of the department to secure fee simple land. There is an appropriation of \$1200 which provides for moving the school building to the new site and for the erection of a new bungalow type of school building. The new site is far more suitable than the present one, according to Mr. Kinney, as it is more removed from the railroad tracks laid down by a dredging company.

Kinau Street Home

For Sale \$2500.

Property consists of a 2-story, 6-room bungalow. Three bedrooms, living room, dining room, pantry-kitchen, servants quarters. There is a fine lawn and mature flowering trees. Modern improvements: gas, electric lights, sewer connection, etc. You can get big value for your money in this property.

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FURNISHED

2568 Rooke St., Punahoa	4 bedrooms	\$75.00
Waikiki	3 "	40.00
Kinau and Makiki Sts.	3 "	50.00
Bates Street	2 "	30.00

UNFURNISHED

1325 Palolo Valley Road	2 bedrooms	\$20.00
1028 Pihikoi St.	2 "	30.00
6028 Wyllie St.	4 "	45.00
2205 McKinley St., Manoa	3 "	45.00
1704 King St.	2 "	30.00
1579 Pihikoi St.	3 "	37.50
Cor. Kamehameha Ave. and Manoa	2 "	40.00
Hackfeld & Prospect Sts.	2 "	27.50
1246 Kinau St.	3 "	30.00
1004 W. 5th Ave., Kaimuki	4 "	18.00
1313 Makiki St.	3 "	30.00
1205 Wilhelmina Rise, Kaimuki	3 "	25.00
1328 Kinau St.	3 "	35.00
720 Kinau St.	4 "	32.50
1339 Wilhelmina Ave.	3 "	40.00
1377 Kalaheua Ave.	3 "	20.00
1136 King St.	5 "	50.00
1317 Makiki St.	3 "	35.00
2144 Lanikuli Drive, Manoa	2 "	42.00
1351 Lunalilo St.	3 "	45.00
2130 Kamehameha Ave., Manoa	3 "	40.00
Lower Manoa Rd. and Hiliade	2 "	37.50
1913 Young St.	2 "	25.00
Kewalo St.	3 "	40.00
1314 Kamehameha IV Rd.	5 "	40.00
1058 14th Ave., Kaimuki	2 "	30.00
811 Lunalilo St.	6 "	60.00
Nuanu Ave.	5 "	50.00
12th and Maunaloa Aves., Kaimuki	2 "	15.00